## **MEDIA RELEASE**



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## Erie County reports seven new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 for a total of 53

Erie, PA – County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper announced seven new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Erie County. The total positive cases of COVID-19 in Erie County to date is 53, with 1,213 negatives and no deaths of Erie County residents.

One of the new cases is in their 20s, one is in their 40s, two are in their 50s, two are in their 60s, and one is in their 70s. Three of the new cases are connected to known positives; one is related to travel, and three are still under investigation by Erie County Department of Health. Four of the new cases are located in Zone 1, two are in Zone 2, and one is in Zone 5, which can be found on the <u>cumulative cases map by zone</u>.

The enforcement team at Erie County Department of Health requests businesses to develop a written policy on how they will comply with Pennsylvania Secretary Rachel Levine's <u>order</u> and to keep it on site. For assistance with an already written plan, email <u>ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov</u>.

These measures are not punitive in how they are implemented. They are to help everyone comply. Starting the practice now will help them to become standard practice when businesses are reopened. Continuing these practices will ensure the work that has been accomplished so far will not be undone.

"I reached out to Governor Wolf and offered for Erie County to become one of the first places to open up for businesses again," Dahlkemper said. "To be considered, we must demonstrate that we are using masks, we are taking temperatures, and we are taking precautions necessary to prove to them that we are a perfect place to pilot. I fully believe the citizens of Erie County can set the example for the state and beyond, and prove that we can get back to normal, and get back to work, by following the proper guidelines."

Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority strongly recommends that all passengers wear masks while onboard EMTA buses. Key points for passengers are posted on all EMTA assets. The points include keeping a 6-foot social distance, entering/exiting buses from the rear door of the bus (if the rider is able), and minimizing contact with the driver. Media outlets can direct questions to <a href="mailto:jpeterson@ride-the-e.com">jpeterson@ride-the-e.com</a> or at 814-452-2801 ext. 115.

Mask guidance, how to make them, and how to wear them, is available under "Resources" on the COVID-19 page at eriecountypa.gov, and at cdc.gov and health.pa.gov.

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For questions related to symptoms, COVID-19 questions and enforcement, call 814-451-6700 or email ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov.

This week is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Show appreciation for public safety first responders by writing an email of thanks and sending it to <a href="mailto:public.safety@eriecountypa.gov">public.safety@eriecountypa.gov</a>.

For more information related to COVID-19, including fact sheets, business resources, family resources, videos, translations, <u>guidance for garden centers and landscaping supply companies</u>, and more, visit <u>eriecountypa.gov</u> and the social media accounts for Erie County, Pa., and Erie County Department of Health.

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